

Section 33. Notwithstanding the provisions of any law to the contrary, no payments for medical providers shall be authorized at a rate greater than the reasonable cost thereof as determined by the rate setting commission; provided, that no increase greater than seven per cent over the rate effective September thirtieth, nineteen hundred and seventy-seven, in the case of hospitals, or over the rate effective as of June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and seventy-seven in the case of other medical providers, shall take effect until approved by the general court; provided, however, that the costs determined by the rate setting commission to be incurred by nursing homes as a result of federally mandated life safety code improvements and increased minimum wage requirements shall be exempt from the provisions of this section; and provided, further, that the secretary of human services and the commissioner of public welfare are hereby directed to obtain from the proper federal authorities prior approval for those provisions of this section that pertain to hospitals.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect as of January first, nineteen hundred and seventy-eight.

Approved March 6, 1978

Chap. 7. AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF WILBRAHAM TO BORROW MONEY TO REPAY CERTAIN FEDERAL AID ANTICIPATION NOTES.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any provisions of section three of chapter seventy-four of the acts of nineteen hundred and forty-five to the contrary, the treasurer of the town of Wilbraham, with the approval of the board of selectmen of said town, is hereby authorized to renew or issue federal aid anticipation notes of the town in the amount of fifty thousand dollars in order to pay the federal aid anticipation notes of the town, dated January sixteenth, nineteen hundred and seventy-three, in the amount of fifty thousand dollars, and most recently renewed on September sixteenth, nineteen hundred and seventy-seven, and payable March sixteenth, nineteen hundred and seventy-eight. Notes issued or renewed under this act for a period of less than one year may be renewed or paid from time to time by the issue of other notes; provided, that the period from the date of an original note issued under this act to the maturity of any note issued to renew or pay the same debt shall not exceed one year.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Approved March 15, 1978

Chap. 8. AN ACT DESIGNATING THE BRIDGE NUMBERED G-1-4 ON RELOCATED STATE HIGHWAY ROUTE 140 IN THE CITY OF GARDNER AS THE HOWARD D. FERGUSON MEMORIAL BRIDGE.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

The bridge numbered G-1-4 by the department of public works